

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF AUBURN - TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, March 15, 2011**  
**8:30 A.M. @ City Hall Conference Room 10**

**Traffic Committee Members**

Valerie Harris, Chief of Police - Present  
Robert Richardson, City Mgr  
Bernie Schroeder, Dir. Of Public Works - Present  
Fred Vitas, Planning Commission  
Lisa Worthington, Planning Alternate

Bill Kirby, Mayor  
Mike Holmes, City Council Member - Present

1. **Public Comment:**  
None
2. **Approval of August 17, 2010 Minutes –**  
Carried over to next meeting as there was not enough for a quorum.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

3. **None**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

4. **Streetscape update –**  
Bernie Schroeder- Streetscape Phase I is complete. We're finishing some of the touches from the SHAAC committee items i.e. pavers and signage. The Endurance Interpretive sign was placed last week but it's not to our satisfaction so we're thinking of moving to a different place. Streetscape Phase II is currently being advertised. We had a pre-bid last week and had 12 contractors so there's a lot of interest in the project. We intend on moving forward with acquiring some property for the underground utilities equipment location.

They plan on moving forward and avoiding the major construction as it moves forward when the Amgen Tour comes to town. Chief Harris asked if the construction would potentially start before May 17<sup>th</sup>, when the Amgen Tour will be here. Schroeder said it could but ordering street lights, things that have a high lead time, but actual excavation would not interfere. We don't want any obstacles for the Amgen riders.

Chief Harris said she is not aware of collisions related to any of the new design. Nor is she getting complaints. She thinks there were some visual concerns initially but all is going well. Schroeder said there were two major complaints that

we received at the onset. One was that the bollards were in the wrong location and that we removed a parking spot. A truck took care of one of the bollards so we moved it back a little more. We're finding that people are getting to maneuver correctly through town.

Also, the other big complaint was about the signal itself. At first we thought we were going to have to replace the cabinet. The microchip in the controller was triggering pedestrians that weren't there. That was replaced about a week and a half ago. It had been giving a false reading. The intent was to slow traffic and it has succeeded in doing that. A lot of the features in the Streetscape are designed to do that.

Schroeder said that Phase II is really a take off of Phase I. Our goal is so that you would never know where Phase I ended and Phase II begins. It will have a good transition i.e. same trees, streetlights, trash cans, interpretive signs.

Chief Harris said on another note, when she had been to Disneyland recently she noticed the Downtown Disney town area that has a hotel, restaurants, shops, etc. They had an area surrounded by wrought iron railing where inside, there is a seating and service bar area where people could have alcoholic beverages. It was big enough that people could pass through. How and where in our Streetscape area could we accommodate having alcohol consumption for special events? Would we be able to make it big enough for people to pass through but have gates that we may be able to close it off? It would be nice to see how much something like that would cost.

Schroeder said there could be sleeves in the concrete to install the fencing and gates. She said she would inquire to the cost of putting something like this in.

Mike Holmes said he has heard comments about the Streetscape area being too cluttered i.e. too many pedestals. He asked if a fencing structure could be as a temporary structure whereby it could be taken out after a special event. It may seem too confining.

Chief Harris said it could be used as a temporary structure; otherwise it would afford a regular seating area where a group could be served depending on Alcohol Beverage Control requirements. However, we would not need to check on that at this time.

Schroeder said that she gets an equal amount of feedback that people tell her it's perfect because you can have a lot of people that can mingle but they feel comfortable. If you open it up like an auditorium or an open area there tends not be the ability to huddle around in certain areas. People feel like it's like their backyard patio.

Mike Holmes commented that the Placer County Performing Arts Center would like to have one ADA parking spot.

## **5. College Way Permit Parking**

Chief Harris said that because the police volunteers are diligent in doing the parking enforcement they have had a lot of issues with kids parking, where the

signage is and where they are enforcing is all the way down College Way to Knoll which is front of the care home. The issue is that the care home can have some folks come visit and in one case the person was in their last days or extremely ill so the visitors stayed longer and was cited. The police department ended up giving a placard to the care home to put in a vehicle that was there for that purpose. They have not received any further complaints on that issue.

Mike Holmes said he was visiting a friend at the care home. He had to leave before he was cited. Another friend was there and overstayed the time limitation and was cited. He did go to the police department and it was dismissed. Holmes suggested that because a lot of the care home residents have elderly visitors, that the home be given a couple cards for visitors to put on their dashboards showing that they are visiting there.

Schroeder asked if permits were issued and if so, were they mostly issued to teachers. Chief Harris said they do issue permits for that area; residents get so many, students get so many but mostly to teachers. A placard doesn't help an elderly visitor to the care home if they have a distance to walk. She said it seems to be working well. Schroeder said to let her know if they need additional signage. Chief Harris said there was some comment about putting a sign all the way down to Knoll so that people would know that they were in the enforceable zone. We need to ask if that's still an issue.

Chief Harris said the issue is the same on E. Placer Street and Almond Street. There is a sign saying "Permit Parking" but when you go over the crest people don't know they are still in the enforcement zone. She asked Schroeder to look at putting an additional sign there. We will not make any modifications to the College Way parking permits at this time.

#### **6. Crosswalk on Fulweiler Avenue**

Request to install crosswalk near Sterling Ave – Area resident Kirk (885-2276)  
Bernie Schroeder showed an aerial map of the location. There was a crosswalk at Sterling crossing Fulweiler up until we did the street overlay. We did not replace it because it is an uncontrolled intersection. It gives people a false sense of security because despite the congestion that can occur there, they feel they can walk safely across the street. The determination was not to replace it.

Kirk wants the crosswalk replaced because people have to walk either to Village Lane or down to Highway 49 where there isn't enough sidewalk. In his mind people cross there anyway so he wants the crosswalk back.

There was some discussion about the area at Fulweiler and Highway 49. Schroeder said there is just curb and gutter. There is no sidewalk. Mike Holmes said there is a right turn only lane. However, we do have similar crosswalks in other areas of town i.e. High St. near the Eidleweiss Restaurant.

Chief Harris said this area of Fulweiler has too much going on and makes a crosswalk there dangerous. It makes more sense to move it up a little further where it is a safer place to cross.

Schroeder said that people blocked the crosswalk that was there, even though there was signage saying not to block the intersection of Fulweiler and Sterling. If we moved the crosswalk up a little further (between the Staples center drive-ways) the sidewalk would need to be cut for ADA requirements. If we put in the yellow material, it is very expensive.

Chief Harris said she will put this issue out to a couple officers to see what they say. If she gets an absolute opinion she feels it would be good to go forth with the project. Holmes and Schroeder agreed but that the expense would need to be looked at

**7. Stop Signs at Katherine Way, Camjen Lane and Perkins Way**

Brad Kearns requested stop signs be installed due to speeding at the “Y” intersection and being a blind corner.

Schroeder said this issue was looked at in 2006. Portions of Placer County do not have signs at all intersections. Typically the city does not have stop signs at all intersections if it’s not warranted. There was a barricade installed and the speed limit was put at 15 mph. The barricade is gone now but the speed limit is the same.

Chief Harris said there are busy times; in the morning and the afternoon when people are dropping off and picking up their children at the school yard and also in the summer when there are activities going on. Maybe we should ask the school if they are getting complaints. We have not had any complaints.

The types of issues we’ve had has been Maidu Drive with people speeding or people not abiding by the signage inside the school yard; dropping kids off/picking kids up blocking the bus zone. We will have an officer contact the school to see they have any complaints.

**8. Merry Knoll Parking**

Kathleen Hackley requests discussion on parking issue along roadway turnout near the P. G. & E. pond.

Chief Harris explained that Ms. Hackley said she drives from Nevada Street up Merry Knoll to the location in question on her way to see her mother. Just as you get past the city limits on the bend people park their cars along the road by the fenced gate and walk in to the pond. Ms. Hackley would like No Parking signs along that portion of road. She inquired about the idea of someone putting in a parking area near that location. Chief Harris was not aware of anything going on there.

Bernie Schroeder, as well, had not heard anything. She will go out there and measure the road right-of-way and if it is not adequate it should be no parking.

Chief Harris said she will follow up with P. G. & E. to see if they have any plan for parking in that area.

**9. Lincoln Way - Concerns for parking signage “Curb your wheels”**

Dan Crenshaw

Chief Harris said Mr. Crenshaw wrote a letter addressing areas with “Curb your wheels” signage. There is a sign on Harrison Street that says “No Parallel Parking” in an area that you cannot parallel park because of the spacing. We also put the “Curb your wheels” sign. She is not sure if there may have been a sign up before and then changed the markings in some way.

The other item in his letter was lighting in a residential area. Chief Harris forwarded the item to Lee Thorpe in Public Works because that is a separate issue. Bernie Schroeder said the light would be taken care of, but that the light may have been taken out because it shown directly into the resident’s bedroom.

**OBTA AGENDA ITEMS PENDING PER FINALIZATION OF PARKING/TRAFFIC STUDY:**

**Traffic Study – AD HOC COMMITTEE handling:**

**Next Traffic Committee Meeting – 4/19/11**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda Bauer